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<i>Wakabayashi Analyst</i>	
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*Weatherman, E.C. 0895*

**HEADER**

R 162208Z FEB 05

FM CDR JPAC HICKAM AFB HI

TO RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC

INFO RUEHHI/AMEMBASSY HANOI

RUEKJCS/CDR USPACOM LO WASHINGTON DC

RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC

RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC

RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC

RHEHNSC/WHITE HOUSE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC

ZEN/CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI

ZEN/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//DPMO//

ZEN/JPAC ANNEX CAMP SMITH HI

ZEN/CDR JPAC HICKAM AFB HI

BT

**CONTROLS**

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SECTION 1 OF 3

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/\*\*\*\*\* THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE \*\*\*\*\*/

**BODY**

SUBJ: CORRECTED COPY OF THE DETAILED REPORT OF EXCAVATION OF CASE 0895 (VS-00233) CONDUCTED DURING THE 78TH JOINT FIELD ACTIVITY IN TH  
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SUBJ/CORRECTED COPY OF THE DETAILED REPORT OF EXCAVATION OF CASE 0895 (VS-00233) CONDUCTED DURING THE 78TH JOINT FIELD ACTIVITY IN THE  
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM//

AKNLDG/THIS SUPERSEDES CDR JPAC MSG DTG 132308Z SEP 04. COMMENTS IN  
THIS REPORT ARE BASED ON FIELD ANALYSIS AND ARE NOT  
INTENDED TO PROVIDE FINAL ANALYTICAL CONCLUSIONS.//

REF/A/RMG/CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI/281803ZSEP94//

REF/B/RMG/CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI/211022ZFEB97//

REF/C/RMG/CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI/070852ZMAR97//

REF/D/RMG/CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI/281122ZAPR03//

REF/E/MEMO/J2 JPAC/27 JUNE 2004//

REF/F/DOC/1:50,000 SCALE MAP SHEET.//

NARR/REFERENCES.

A. REF A IS THE DETAILED SEARCH AND RECOVERY REPORT OF CASE 9951  
CONDUCTED DURING THE 31ST JOINT FIELD ACTIVITY (JFA) IN THE SOCIALIST  
REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM (SRV).

**Reviewed by DPMO**

**IAW 50 USC 435 Note & DOD 5400.7-R**

**Date:31-Mar-2005 Initialed By: R. W.**

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B. REF B IS THE RESEARCH AND INVESTIGATION TEAM (RIT) DETAILED REPORT

OF SPECIAL REMAINS CASE 9951 CONDUCTED DURING THE 36TH JFA.

C. REF C IS THE DETAILED REPORT OF INVESTIGATION (DRI) OF SPECIAL

REMAINS CASE 9951 CONDUCTED DURING THE 44TH JFA.

D. REF D IS THE DETAILED REPORT OF INVESTIGATION OF CASE 2064 CONDUCTED

DURING THE 72ND JFA IN THE SRV.

E. REF E IS THE MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD CHANGING CASE 2064 BACK TO ITS

ORIGINAL HISTORICAL CASE NUMBER; CASE 0895.

F. REF F IS MAP DATA: NAME: GI LANG; SHEET: 6639 III; SERIES: L7014; EDITION: 1-AMS.//

RMKS/1. SUMMARY OF EXCAVATION.

A. CASE 0895: FROM 16 JULY THROUGH 21 JULY 2004, DURING THE 78TH JFA, RECOVERY TEAM THREE (RT3) SURVEYED AND EXCAVATED BURIAL SITE ASSOCIATED WITH CASE 0895 IN TRA BONG DISTRICT, QUANG NGAI PROVINCE. BASED ON THE TESTIMONY OF THE WITNESS, RT3 CLEARED AND SURVEYED AN AREA OF APPROXIMATELY 600 SQUARE METERS AND EXCAVATED 63 SQUARE METERS TO AN AVERAGE DEPTH OF APPROXIMATELY 90 CENTIMETERS BELOW GROUND SURFACE. RT3 DID NOT RECOVER REMAINS OR PERSONAL EFFECTS AND FOUND NO EVIDENCE OF A BURIAL. THE RECOVERY LEADER/ANTHROPOLOGIST (RL), IN CONSULTATION WITH THE TEAM LEADER, SUSPENDED ACTIVITY AT THE SITE ON 21 JULY 2004 AND RECOMMENDED FURTHER EXCAVATION.

B. TEAM COMPOSITION:

(1) U.S. CONTINGENT:

[REDACTED]	TEAM LEADER	
[REDACTED]	RECOVERY LEADER/ANTHROPOLOGIST (RL)	
[REDACTED]	TEAM SERGEANT	
[REDACTED]	LINGUIST	(b) (3)
[REDACTED]	LINGUIST	(b) (6)
[REDACTED]	MEDIC	
[REDACTED]	EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL (EOD)	
TECHNICIAN		
[REDACTED]	LIFE SUPPORT INVESTIGATOR	

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TEAM PHOTOGRAPHER  
MORTUARY AFFAIRS SPECIALIST  
MORTUARY AFFAIRS SPECIALIST  
COMMUNICATIONS TECHNICIAN

(b) (3)

(b) (6)

(2) SRV CENTRAL GOVERNMENT CONTINGENT:

MR. LUU VAN THO (LWU VAWN THOJ)	TEAM LEADER
MR. LE CONG TIEN (LEE COONG TIEENS)	TEAM MEMBER
MR. PHAN VAN MINH (PHAN VAWN MINH)	TEAM MEMBER
MR. GIANG VAN QUANG (GIANG VAWN QUANG)	TEAM MEMBER
MR. TRAN QUYNH LAN (TRAANF QUYNHF LAN)	TEAM MEMBER

(3) QUANG NGAI PROVINCE CONTINGENT:

MR. TRUONG QUANG TUONG (TRWONG QUANG TWONGR)	TEAM LEADER
MR. NGUYEN MINH TRI (NGUYEENX MINH TRIS)	TEAM MEMBER
MR. DO DINH HAI (DOOX DINHF HAIR)	TEAM MEMBER
MR. NGUYEN VAN THUONG (NGUYEENX VAWN THWONGR)	TEAM MEMBER
MR. NGUYEN VAN SON (NGUYEENX VAWN SOWN)	TEAM MEMBER

(4) TAY TRA DISTRICT CONTINGENT

MR. VU VAN NGOC (VUX VAWN NGOCJ)	TEAM LEADER
MR. NGUYEN VAN TAM (NGUYEENX VAWN TAAM)	TEAM MEMBER
MR. HOANG VAN NHAN (HOANGF VAWN NHAAN)	TEAM MEMBER

2. BACKGROUND.

A. CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS: THIS CASE INVOLVES THE 8 NOVEMBER 1967

CAPTURE OF A U.S. MARINE IN SOUTHERN VIETNAM WHO CAME UNDER CONTROL OF THE

MILITARY REGION FIVE (MR5) **PRISONER-OF-WAR (POW)** CAMP. THE U.S. POW RETURNEES' STATEMENTS INDICATE HE AND ANOTHER MARINE ATTEMPTED TO ESCAPE ON

OR ABOUT 1 APRIL 1968. ACCORDING TO THE OTHER RECAPTURED ESCAPEE, WHO LATER

DIED IN THE POW CAMP, LOCAL SECURITY FORCES SHOT AND KILLED THE OTHER PRISONER ATTEMPTING TO ESCAPE (REFNO 0895-1-01; FORMERLY CASE 9951 AND CASE

2064). TO DATE, HE AND OR HIS REMAINS ARE UNACCOUNTED FOR.

B. DURING THE 31ST JFA, RECOVERY ELEMENT FIVE (RE5) EXCAVATED A 4-X-4-METER AREA POINTED OUT BY A WITNESS AS THE ISOLATED BURIAL SITE. THE

TEAM DID NOT RECOVER REMAINS OR FIND ANY EVIDENCE OF A BURIAL (REF A).

C. THE RESEARCH AND INVESTIGATION (RIT) INVESTIGATED CASE 9951 DURING

/\*\*\*\*\* BEGINNING OF SECTION 2 \*\*\*\*\*/

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THE 36TH JFA. THE THREE WITNESSES INTERVIEWED AT THIS TIME (MR. PHUNG, MR. BO AND MR. THANH) AGREED ON THE GENERAL LOCATION (A 20-X-30-METER AREA), BUT COULD NOT PINPOINT THE GRAVE. THE TEAM DUG TWO TEST PITS BUT THE RESULTS WERE NEGATIVE (REF B).

D. AS A FOLLOW-UP, THE RIT RE-INVESTIGATED THIS CASE ON THE 44TH JFA. THE WITNESS INTERVIEWED DURING THE INVESTIGATION (MR. THANH) STATED THAT THE AREA THE RECOVERY ELEMENT EXCAVATED WAS THE CORRECT AREA BUT THAT THE BURIAL MAY HAVE BEEN APPROXIMATELY 60 CENTIMETERS CLOSER TO THE STREAM BED (REF C).

E. BASED ON THE FINDINGS OF THE 36TH JFA, A HUMAN REMAINS DOG TEAM (HRDT) INVESTIGATED AND SURVEYED THE PROJECT AREA ASSOCIATED WITH THIS CASE DURING THE 72ND JFA. THE TEAM INTERVIEWED TWO WITNESSES WHOM INDICATED THE BURIAL WAS IN A GENERAL AREA APPROXIMATELY 15-20 METERS FROM WHERE RE5 EXCAVATED DURING THE 31ST JFA (REF D).

F. ONE 1 JULY 2004, THE J-2, JPAC IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEFENSE POW/MISSING PERSONNEL OFFICE, CHANGED CASE 2064 BACK TO ITS ORIGINAL HISTORICAL CASE NUMBER; CASE 0895 (REF E).

A. VICINITY OF EAST HAMLET (THOON DOONG), TRA KHE VILLAGE (XAX TRAF KHEE), TRA BONG DISTRICT, QUANG NGAI PROVINCE.

B. GPS GRID COORDINATES: 49P BS 14243 83444 USING THE GARMIN GPS-III RECEIVER, TRACKING FIVE SATELLITES, USING THE INDIAN-THAILAND DATUM (49P BS 13741 83782 USING WGS-84 DATUM).

C. MAP GRID COORDINATES: 49P BS 142 834.

D. MAP: NAME: GI LANG; SHEET: 6639 III; SERIES: L7014; EDITION: I-AMS.

4. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT AREA.

A. THE SITE IS IN A RELATIVELY FLAT AREA IN A VALLEY ADJACENT TO

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(EAST OF) TERRACED RICE PADDIES. A SMALL INTERMITTENT STREAM RUNS DOWNHILL PARALLEL TO THE PADDIES AND THROUGH THE CURRENT PROJECT AREA.

B. VEGETATION ON SITE CONSISTS OF MIXED HARDWOODS, VINES, GRASSES, BAMBOO AND BANANA TREE STANDS.

5. FIELD METHOD.

A. THE WITNESS (SEE BELOW) POINTED OUT THE SUSPECTED BURIAL LOCATION

(THE PREVIOUSLY EXCAVATED AREA). RT3, WITH THE AID OF LOCAL LABORERS,

CLEARED A 20-X-30-METER AREA TO THE EAST, SOUTH, AND NORTH OF THIS LOCATION.

THE TEAM SURVEYED THE AREA, BUT FOUND NO SIGNS OF A BURIAL.

B. THE RL ESTABLISHED A GRID SYSTEM THAT ENCOMPASSED THE PREVIOUSLY EXCAVATED AREA AND EXPANDED UPON THOSE BORDERS. THE TEAM EXCAVATED WITHIN

2-X-2-METER UNITS. RT3 EXCAVATED HORIZONTAL LAYERS 15-20 CENTIMETERS DEEP.

THE RL INSPECTED EACH LAYER FOR DISTURBANCES IN THE STRATIGRAPHY THAT MAY

INDICATE THE PRESENCE OF A BURIAL.

C. THE TEAM EXCAVATED A TEST UNIT 1.5-X-1 METER OVER A SLIGHT DEPRESSION JUST OUTSIDE OF THE PRIMARY PROJECT LOCATION. THE TEAM ALSO

EXCAVATED A 1.2-X-0.80-METER AREA TO THE WEST OF THE PREVIOUSLY EXCAVATED

AREA ADJACENT TO THE PINPOINTED ALLEGED BURIAL LOCATION.

D. RT3 PROCESSED THE SITE USING RAKES, PICKS, SHOVELS, HOES, AND BUCKETS. THE TEAM INSPECTED ALL OF THE SEDIMENT FROM EXCAVATED AREAS BY

RAKING THROUGH AND SPREADING OUT THE MATRIX IN DESIGNATED INSPECTION AREAS.

E. THE TEAM PHOTOGRAPHED THE SITE PRIOR TO, DURING, AND UPON COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT.

6. ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDINGS.

A. RT3 DID NOT RECOVER ANY OSSEOUS REMAINS OR PERSONAL EFFECTS OR ANY

EVIDENCE OF A BURIAL IN THE AREA.

B. RT3 EXCAVATED 63 SQUARE METERS TO AN AVERAGE DEPTH OF

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APPROXIMATELY  
90 CENTIMETERS IN MOST UNITS. THE CURRENT PROJECT AREA EXPANDED THE  
AREA  
EXCAVATED DURING THE 31ST JFA.

C. THE STRATIGRAPHY AT THE SITE CONSISTS OF A DARK,  
YELLOWISH-BROWN,  
SANDY CLAY OVERLYING A SLIGHTLY LIGHTER SHADE OF SANDY CLAY WITH  
NUMEROUS  
SANDSTONE INCLUSIONS.

7. MATERIAL EVIDENCE: NONE.

8. LIFE SUPPORT INVESTIGATOR COMMENTS: NONE.

9. ANALYST/LINGUIST COMMENTS. ON 16 JULY 2004, RT3 RE-INTERVIEWED  
ONE

WITNESS PRIOR TO SETTING THE RECOVERY SCENE PERIMETER.

(1) WITNESS ONE NAME: MR. DINH A KIM (DINH A KIM).

(2) AGE: 65 YEARS OF AGE.

(3) ADDRESS: TEAM 6 (DOOIJ SAUS), HA HAMLET (THOON HAF), TRA  
KHE

/\*\*\*\*\* BEGINNING OF SECTION 3 \*\*\*\*\*/

VILLAGE (TRAF KHEE), TAY TRA DISTRICT, QUANG NGAI PROVINCE.

(4) CURRENT OCCUPATION: RETIRED.

(5) OCCUPATION AT TIME OF INCIDENT: PAVN SOLDIER, GUARD AT  
POW  
CAMP.

(6) BACKGROUND: JOINT TEAMS INTERVIEWED THIS WITNESS ON  
SEVERAL  
OCCASIONS REGARDING THIS CASE. MR. KIM PROVIDED SIMILAR INFORMATION  
PREVIOUSLY RECORDED IN REF A.

(7) STATEMENT:

(A) MR. KIM PARTICIPATED IN THE BURIAL OF A U.S.  
SERVICEMEMBER  
WHO ATTEMPTED TO ESCAPE A NEARBY POW CAMP. THE GRAVE HE HELPED DIG  
WAS JUST  
BIG ENOUGH FOR THE BODY TO BE BURIED APPROXIMATELY 50-60 CENTIMETERS  
BELOW  
SURFACE. THE BODY WAS ORIENTED WITH THE HEAD UPHILL AND FEET  
DOWNWARD. THE  
BODY WAS CLOTHED IN VIETNAMESE STYLE CLOTHING.

(B) WHEN ASKED HOW HE WAS ABLE TO PRECISELY LOCATE THE  
BURIAL  
LOCATION, MR. KIM CITED A NEARBY LARGE HARDWOOD TREE, AND BAMBOO  
STANDS AS

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HIS POINTS OF REFERENCE. THE BODY WAS BURIED NEXT TO/UNDER THE BAMBOO STAND. AT THE TIME OF THE INCIDENT, THE AREA TO THE EAST WAS NOT TERRACED RICE PADDIES BUT WAS A CLEARED AREA WHERE THE U.S. SERVICEMEMBER WAS SHOT AND KILLED.

10. EOD TECHNICIAN COMMENTS. NONE.

11. RECOVERY LEADER CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

A. RT3 RECOVERED NO REMAINS, PERSONAL EFFECTS OR EVIDENCE OF A BURIAL DURING EXCAVATION.

B. THE LOCATION POINTED OUT BY MR. KIM HAS EFFECTIVELY BEEN RULED OUT IN ALL DIRECTIONS EXCEPT TO THE WEST, WHICH IS CURRENTLY A TERRACED RICE PADDY THAT HAS UNDERGONE EXTENSIVE MODIFICATION SINCE THE TIME OF THE INCIDENT. THE LIKELIHOOD OF FINDING AN INTACT BURIAL IN THAT LOCATION IS LOW. THE CURRENT PROJECT AREA ENCOMPASSED TEN METERS OF THE SMALL STREAM THAT RUNS DOWNHILL THROUGH THE ALLEGED BURIAL AREA.

C. LOCAL SOURCES INDICATED THAT THE AREA TO THE EAST OF THE CURRENT PROJECT LOCATION IS A LOCAL CEMETERY. THIS AREA BEGINS APPROXIMATELY 15 METERS PAST THE EXCAVATED AREA.

D. RECOMMEND ANY FUTURE RECOVERY TEAM CONTINUE EXCAVATION IN AN AREA POINTED OUT BY WITNESSES DURING THE 72ND JFA. THE PROJECT AREA MAY ENCOMPASS THE 15-X-10-METER AREA TO THE EAST OF THE AREA EXCAVATED ON THE 78TH JFA, AS WELL AS A SEPARATE AREA FURTHER TO THE NORTHEAST. MR. PHUNG AND MR. THANH SHOULD ACCOMPANY THE NEXT RECOVERY TEAM AND SPECIFICALLY POINT OUT THE ADDITIONAL LOCATIONS. THE FUTURE PROJECT AREA SIZE WILL VARY DEPENDING ON HOW PRECISE THE WITNESSES CAN BE. FOR EXAMPLE, IF THE WITNESS POINTS OUT A 15-X-15-METER AREA THAT ENTIRE AREA SHOULD BE EXCAVATED OR SYSTEMATICALLY TESTED AS WELL AS A 5-10-METER BUFFER ZONE. IF THE

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WITNESS  
POINTS OUT A VERY SPECIFIC LOCATION, THEN A MINIMUM 15-METER RADIUS  
SHOULD  
BE EXPLORED SURROUNDING THAT SPOT. IN ADDITION TO THE WITNESS  
LOCATED  
AREAS, THE TEAM SHOULD CLEAR AND INTENSIVELY SURVEY THE STREAMBED AND  
WALLS  
TO THE NORTHEAST OF THE EXCAVATED AREA TO ENSURE THAT THE BURIAL WAS  
NOT  
IMPACTED BY A POSSIBLE CHANGE IN COURSE OF THE STREAM OR ADDITIONAL  
TAPHONOMIC FACTORS.  
12. TEAM LEADER COMMENTS.  
A. CONCLUSION: TEAM LEADER CONCURS WITH RL'S CONCLUSION AND  
RECOMMENDATION.  
B. HOST GOVERNMENT COOPERATION/SUPPORT: GOOD.  
13. DETACHMENT COMMANDER COMMENTS. CONCUR WITH THE RL.//

**ADMIN**

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